

Swansea Outlook

Volume 38 – Number 2

Newsletter of the Swansea Area Ratepayers' Association

May, 2011

(<http://www.swansearatepayers.ca>)

EXECUTIVE MEETINGS

Please note that Executive meetings are public and held normally on the third Tuesday of each month, excluding July and August. Due to seating limitations, kindly contact the Executive before attending.

Your executive as of the date of this letter: Louis Gris - Past-President; Nick Singh, President; Vacant - Vice-presidents; K. Lawson - Treasurer; D. Fleming - Secretary; John Meijer - Membership Chair; Directors: Gared Daniel, E. Gaigalas, I. McIsaac, William (Bill) Roberts, E. Elson, S. Wilkinson, and Brian O'Rourke

The Executive needs volunteers to help with various duties. Persons interested should contact the President and, if they wish, attend our Executive Meetings to help understand what is involved.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – The 2011 Annual General Meeting will be held on Tues, May 31, 7:30pm. A representative from the Police 11 Division will be our speaker. We need new Board members - interested persons should contact Bill Roberts at 416-769-3162.

FEDERAL ELECTION ALL CANDIDATES MEETING –SARA held a lively meeting for the federal election candidates on April 13. It was well attended (standing room only), and we were treated to intelligent and considered debate from all the candidates on topics ranging from foreign policy in the Mideast to the G20, from fighter jets to transportation policy, from candidate voting records to ethics in Parliament to the CBC and much more. Thanks to all who attended.

PROVINCIAL ELECTION ALL CANDIDATES MEETING –SARA will host an all-candidate's meeting for the fall Provincial Election on Tuesday September 27, 2010 in the Rousseau Room of the Town Hall. The meeting will take the same format as previous ones, with doors opening at 7:00pm, and the meeting starting at 7:30.

MEMBERSHIP Thank you to those who have renewed for 2011. If you haven't already, please renew now for 2011.

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE FEES for 2011 (unchanged):
Single membership standard \$12.00 senior \$10.00
Family membership standard \$14.00 senior \$12.00
Business membership \$20.00

Note: A Senior is anyone 60 plus.

Please contact John Meijer to renew. Membership forms may also be sent to Swansea Area Ratepayers' Association, c/o Swansea Town Hall, Box 103, and 95 Lavinia Avenue, Toronto, M6S 3H9.

SWANSEA TOWN HALL Memberships for the Town Hall Association are always available at the Town Hall for only \$2/year!

SCOTIABANK TORONTO WATERFRONT MARATHON –SARA, along with our partner organizations, will again participate in running the cheering stand at the bottom of Windermere at the Lakeshore on October 16, 2011. We hope to see you there once again to cheer on all the runners.

2500/2490 BLOOR STREET WEST (HUMBERSIDE MOTORS) – This development appears to be going ahead, now that a settlement between OMRA and Tridel concerning traffic and other issues was reached. SARA supported the Old Mill residents. There was a meeting regarding Treemore Park and the Section 37 funds – the allocation of which should be wrapped up by June or September.

SARA FUNDRAISER NOV 10/2011 AT THE VILLAGE PLAYHOUSE

SARA's fundraiser – to be held at the Nov 10 preview of the Village Players (2190E Bloor W) presentation of LORD ARTHUR SAVILE'S CRIME. This was adapted by Constance Cox from a short story by Oscar Wilde. Tickets (\$16 each) are available from the Executive.

SWANSEA REC CENTRE / RENNIE PARK

There is to be a celebration party for the 120th anniversary of Swansea Public School, with a reunion dance scheduled on May 27. Tickets are \$15 and there will be eating, dancing and a slideshow. Also, the Rennie Park garage sale will be held on June 4, and tables are available for \$40. Get there early for the good deals!

CORRA / FoNTRA – ZONING BY-LAW HARMONIZATION

You may be aware that the repeal of the harmonized Zoning By-law 1156-2010 was approved by City Council at its meeting of May 17/18. Council has now asked staff to engage in consultations with the appellants and report back to P&GM Oct 6 for recommendations to Council at its meeting on Nov 8, for possible enactment of changes next Feb, 2012. Staff is not authorized to enlarge the scope of by-law changes, and SARA will be a participant in the process.

WEST END COMMUNITY GROUPS / CORRA REVITALIZATION

The next meeting of the west end community groups will be hosted by SARA at the Town Hall in September. Bill Roberts was elected Chair.

SWANSEA MEMORIAL LIBRARY AND FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY – Please continue to visit our Library! With our support, the usage of the Library keeps growing; this only helps to protect this community resource.

LIBRARY HOURS ARE:

Monday: Closed
Tuesday: 10:00 A.M. - 12:00 & (*) 1:00 - 6:00 P.M.
Wednesday:1:00 - 8:00 P.M.
Thursday: 10:00 A.M.-12:00 & (*) 1:00 - 6:00 P.M.
Friday: Closed
Saturday: 10:00 A.M. 5:00 P.M.
Sunday: Closed

(*) closed for lunch from 12:00 - 1:00 P.M. Tuesday & Thursday
Friends of Library contact: G. Dubauskas at 416 - 762 -6413.

COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT/ PLANNING MATTERS – SARA continues to monitor all minor variance applications in Swansea which go before the Committee of Adjustment. This is to ensure their appropriateness and desirability for the neighbourhood and community. Below are recent applications of interest:

155 Morningside – This application was unanimously refused by Committee of Adjustment back in April and is being appealed to the OMB by the applicant.

70 Lavinia, Fourteen variances were approved by the Committee of Adjustment on Feb 3 for an application to construct a second story addition, front and rear additions and a second suite. This is being appealed at OMB by adjacent neighbours, with SARA supporting the neighbours' appeal..

45 Morningside, The Committee of Adjustment hearing on 3 March approved the severance and construction plans for two new homes, despite the community and SARA's opposition. We met with adjacent neighbours who were considering a response. SARA is waiting to hear whether any appeal is launched.

16 Wendigo Way, Construction of an outdoor kitchen was apparently not completely to code, and the persistence of the neighbour in pointing that out to inspections resulted in some remedial work, SARA has learned.

263 Ellis Ave – This application for a third floor addition plus rear deck involved seven variances (including the new by-law variances since repealed). It was heard for a second time at CoA on May 12 and SARA is waiting to hear the decision.

15 Runnymede Road, An application to construct an additional dwelling unit in the existing building, resulting in a Triplex, was denied by CoA on Feb 3, after failing to meet the tests of the planning act. The decision has been appealed to the OMB by the applicant, and SARA has been in contact with Councillor Doucette to arrange for a City lawyer and planner to represent the community at the OMB.

SOUTHPORT PLAZA

SARA is fundraising for a retail marketing study to examine potential commercial opportunities at the Southport Plaza site. We plan to meet with the developer to discuss further funding and mutual benefits from any study undertaken.

SOUTH KINGSWAY / QUEENSWAY RAMPS

SARA wants improved sightlines at the stop sign turning west off South Kingsway onto the Queensway. We have raised the issue with city staff and Ward 13 Councillor Doucette.

TTC SOUTHKINGSWAY STOP

SARA would like to see the stairwell from South Kingsway down to the Queensway restored to operation. We have raised the issue with Ward 13 Councillor Doucette, who is contacting responsible officials and the TTC.

JOYCO OIL STATION The Grenadier Group has proposed a 20 year lease on operation of a restaurant facility incorporating the former Joy Oil. SARA and our local representative are in favour of exploring options for this site. We are unaware how far negotiations have progressed.

BLOOR STREET BRIDGE – repairs are ongoing to the bridge over the Humber River at Bloor Street.

William (Bill) Roberts / John Meijer: Editors
 Nick Singh: Advisory Committee



SARA 2011 Membership Application Form

Yes, I want to renew/join SARA as a:

- Individual Membership \$12.00 / \$10.00 Senior
- Family Membership \$14.00 / \$12.00 Senior
- Business/Organization \$20.00

Please indicate if:

- New Member
- Renewing Member

Please note that memberships are for a one year term: January->December

Name _____

Company/Organization _____

Address _____

Suite/Apt/Unit Number _____

City _____

Province _____ Postal Code _____
 ()

Area Code _____ Telephone Number _____

Email Address _____

Yes, I want to get involved and help with:

- Membership
- Special Events
- Fundraising
- Web Content
- Other – specify
- Committee Chair
- Board of Director
- Community Liaison
- Media Relations

Payment:

Please make your cheque payable to the:
 Swansea Area Ratepayers Association

Please send this completed form along with your cheque to:
 Swansea Area Ratepayers Association, c/o John Meijer,
 Membership Chair, 16 The Palisades, Toronto ON M6S 2W8